

**Silloth-on-Solway Town Council**

**Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 26 January 2015 at 7.00pm at Silloth Community Hall**

**Present**

Cllr. A.J. Markley (AJM) – Chairman

**Councillors**

J. Cook (JC), G. Wilkinson (GW), J. Baxter (JB), C. Graham (CG),  
A. Emmerson (AE) & M. Orchard (MO).

Also present: Wendy Jameson – Town Clerk (WEJ).

<b>076</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllrs. S. Graham & D. Wallace.	
<b>077</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b> Cllr. A.J. Markley – re: Markley Transport, Carrs Coaches, County Council, Silloth Vintage Rally etc. Cllr. Emmerson – STAG. Cllr. J Cook - STAG Cllr. C. Graham – STAG & SPAND Cllr. Wilkinson – re: Silloth Vintage Rally Cllr. Baxter – Silloth Rugby Club Cllr. M. Orchard – Silloth Rugby Club	
<b>078</b>	<b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b> None	
<b>079</b>	<b>Adjournment of Meeting</b> There had been no prior requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.	
<b>080</b>	<b>Budget 2015/16</b> The Clerk had produced some draft budget figures which were considered by the Town Council in some detail. There have been considerable cuts to the Council's income over recent years in terms of grounds maintenance revenue. Allerdale are to continue with the cleaning of the public toilets for another year (i.e. 2015/16) and the funding of £10,000 for each town may be available again this year. £10,000 has been included in the budget towards the cost of a tractor and hedge cutter. In addition to this, HLF funding of £18,000 is to be used and £5,000 from the Maintenance budget which will enable the Council to undertake the pruning of the Rhododendrons and maintenance of the Green. The equipment will also enable the Council to undertake additional contract work and generate further income in the long term. Prices have been obtained from CT Hayton's and it was suggested that Rickerby's also be contacted. There may be a possibility of the Town Council taking over the Discovery Centre and utilising the building, working in partnership with the County Council etc. Enquiries have been made with regard to the Tourist Information Centre, to which the Council contributes 10% towards the running costs but it has not been staffed for over 12 months. No bill has been received for this current year as yet. It was questioned whether any revenue could be raised by charging for the use of the public conveniences. It was agreed to look at it in the future and see whether there are any grants available to do it. There may be some revenue to come from APK in relation to the provision of a	

	<p>play area for the new houses at the Fisons estate. Adam Kirkbride is coming to the next Council meeting to discuss it further.</p> <p>Increased cuts from higher up have a knock on effect and reduces the funding available to local councils and hence the need to increase the precept.</p> <p>After considerable discussion <b>RESOLVED</b> that the total funding requirement for 2015/16 would be £156,080 less CTRS Grant of £3,310, resulting in a Precept of £152,770. Using the Council Tax base figure of 806.33 provided by Allerdale, this would result in a £193.57 charge on a Band D property for the Town Council's element of the Council Tax Bill. This is an increase of £42.21 p.a. on last year's figure.</p>	<b>WEJ</b>
081	<p><b>Email from Jimmy Lettice</b></p> <p>An email has been received from Jimmy Lettice clarifying a couple of points in relation to the sports association, the funding allocation for events and festivals, and also resigning from the Town Council. This was discussed but as it was not on the Agenda, it will be considered at the next meeting when Cllrs. will have had an opportunity to read the email.</p>	

Signed.....

Date.....